

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_\_\_  
no \_\_\_\_\_

Property Name: The Chimney Corner Inventory Number: G-V-A-060  
Address: 2148 George Washington Highway Historic district: yes ☒ X no  
City: Oakland Zip Code: 21550 County: Garrett  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Table Rock MD/WV  
Property Owner: Fresh Fire Church of God Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 23 Tax Map Number: 95  
Project: Roth Rock Wind Power Project; Garrett Co. Agency: MD Public Service Commission  
Agency Prepared By: Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc.  
Preparer's Name: Merry Stinson Date Prepared: 1/6/2006  
Documentation is presented in: MIHP# G-V-A-060, Maryland Coal Region Historic Sites Survey, 1981  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: yes Listed: yes  
Site visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Property and Justification:** *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Chimney Corner is a 40'x80' rustic log building constructed in 1932 as a restaurant. The building was surveyed and documented by MHT in 1981. A stone and concrete block cellar underpinning the building opens out on the northwest end as the land slopes downhill. The vertical log building is partially covered with wood siding. A deep porch finished in rustic Adirondack twig-style spans the façade. Log porch posts stand on stone pillars. A shallow-angled cross gable over the porch entrance is faced with vertical chinked saplings. 6-pane widows light the restaurant. The double-hearth fireplace inspired the restaurant's name. The interior was finished in similar rustic style. The Chimney Corner was built by Amos N. Peters of nearby West Virginia. The establishment was renowned for entertainment and dancing. It was later owned by Russell Smith of Oakland who emphasized its function as a restaurant. According to MHT's 1981 survey, "Due to food and gas rationing, from 1942 to 1945 the place was open mainly at night. Smith held a beer license until 1951 but discontinued it because he wanted to build up a family oriented trade." The rear of the building is similar in character and materials to the northwest elevation as depicted in the accompanying photograph.

The restaurant has been closed and the building is now owned by the Fresh Fire Church of God, reducing its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. It is not known how much of the original interior detail remains. The exterior retains many original

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_  
Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

**MHT Comments:**

Andrew Lewis  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

6/26/06  
Date

Ekinty  
Reviewer, National Register Program

6/23/06  
Date

200601643

## NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

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The Chimney Corner

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features. The building exhibits architectural integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship under National Register Criterion C. The rustic style is characteristic of the mountainous recreation area in the early 20th century. This building continued the traditional function of the Redhouse crossroads community for serving travelers, contributing to travel, trade, and settlement patterns, meeting Criterion A. The Chimney Corner is individually eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. It would also contribute to a Redhouse National Register Historic District.

Archaeological assessment, Criterion D, was not a part of this evaluation of above-ground resources.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Table Rock, MD/WV USGS Quad  
Roth Rock Wind Power Project  
Synergics Energy Services, LLC  
Backbone Mt., Garrett Co., MD  
September 9, 2005

G-V-A-060  
The Chimney Corner



G-V-A-060

Chimney Corner

Garrett Co., MD

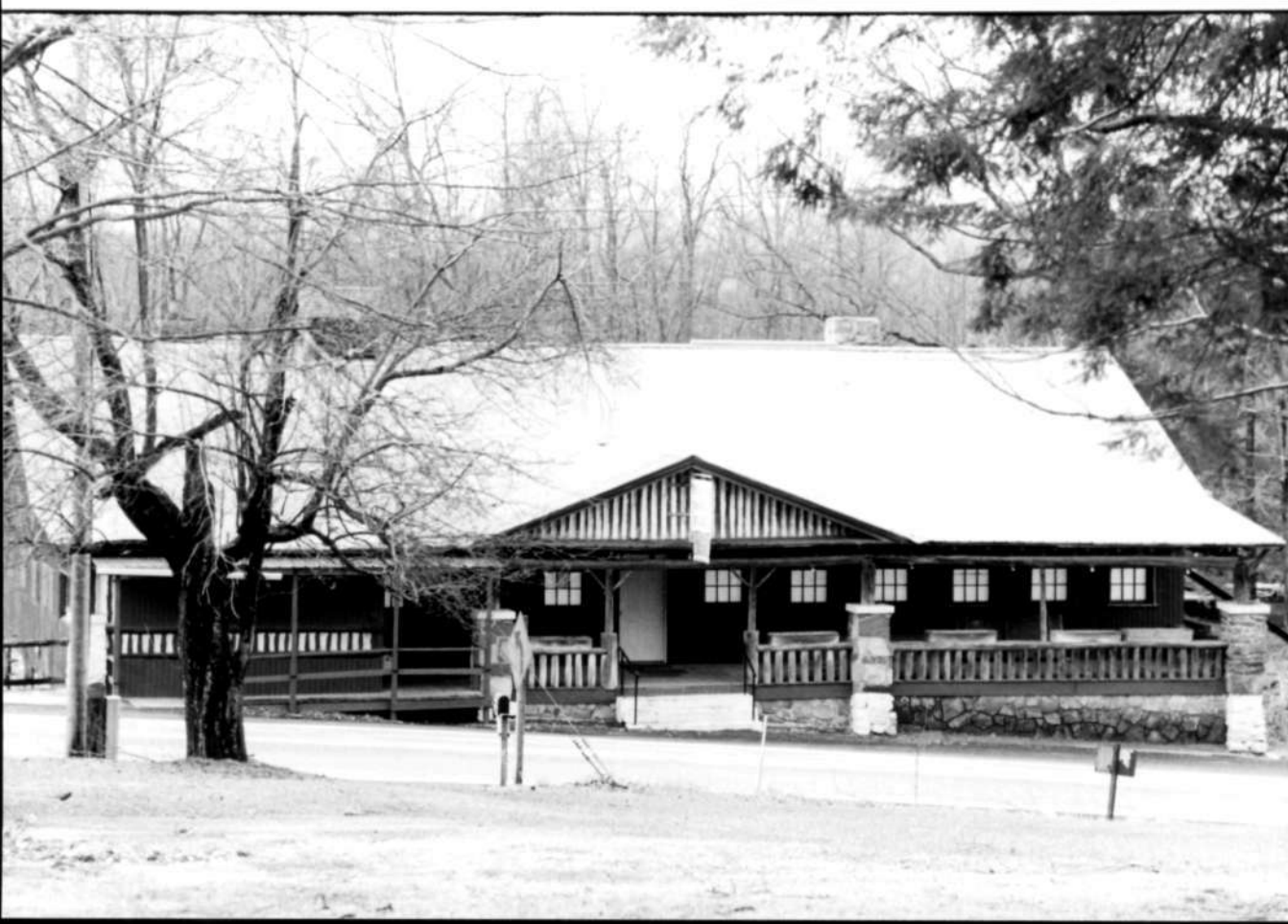
Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

S view

1 of 5



G-V-A-060

Chimney Corner

Garrett Co., MD

Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

S view

2 of 5



FRESH FIRE  
CHURCH  
OF GOD

PASTORS TOM &  
SANDY MCGINNIS

Worship Services: 10:00 AM  
Sunday School: 9:00 AM  
Bible Study: 7:00 PM  
Prayer Meeting: 7:00 PM  
Contact: 508-555-1234

G.V.A. 060

Chimney Corner

Garrett Co. MD

Merry Stinson 8/24/05

MD SHPO

NE elev.

3 of 5



G.V.A. 060

Chimney Corner

Garrett Co. MD

Merry Stinson 8/24/05

MD SHPO

NW elev.

4 of 5



G-V-A-060

Chimney Corner

Garrett Co., MD

Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

Porch and W end detail

S of 5

G-V-A-060

1932

The Chimney Corner  
Red House  
Private

The Chimney Corner Dining Room is built in a consciously rustic style that is usually associated with recreation in wilderness areas. It is a 40 by 80 foot building of vertical log construction with a massive facade porch composed of oversized stone piers and log railings. Its windows are six pane single sash with half-round silver branches used for surrounds. On the interior, the log walls and the sapling roof trusses are left exposed. A large, double hearth, stone fireplace occupies one corner of the dining room. The handmade furniture, the "old time" implements displayed on the walls, and the orange neon signs directing the way to the cashier, the gift shop, and the rest rooms, all add to the quasi-rustic image of the building.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The Chimney Corner

AND/OR COMMON

The Chimney Corner

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 50 &amp; Route 219 - west corner

CITY, TOWN

Redhouse

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Russell L. Smith

Telephone #: (301) 334-2531

STREET &amp; NUMBER

214 Fourth Street

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21550

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 187

Folio #: 538

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

G-V-A-060

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Chimney Corner is located on the western corner at the intersection of U.S. Route 50 and U.S. Route 219. The facade of the building faces the road, pointing northeast.

The Chimney corner, built in 1932, is a one story 40 by 80 foot building of vertical log construction with a full facade porch and a small shed addition to the rear.

The building rests on a foundation of uncoursed rubble stone and cement block. Stone is used on the front half of the building while cement block is used to the rear. The walls are constructed of chestnut logs set vertically with two strands of metal lath between each log. The lath is covered with cement on the interior and exterior, with a one inch air space between the two layers for insulation. The exterior walls are covered with plywood siding in a vertical board design. Windows are six pane single sash. Half-round silver birch branches are used for door and window surrounds on the facade; plain board is used on the sides and rear.

The gable roof is constructed in twelve bents with saplings in a W-truss. The truss system is left exposed on the interior; the exterior is covered with asphalt shingles and the rafter ends are left exposed. A ventilator is situated on the ridgeline east of the center. An interior, whitewashed, stone chimney is located near the west corner, and a brick chimney is positioned between the rear addition and the main block.

A shed-roofed porch with a shallow central cross gable extends the full length of the facade on a stone foundation. An enclosed room with top-hinged, six-pane windows is located at the eastern end of the porch. Four large, square, stone piers topped by log posts and connected by a log railing support the roof.

The interior is arranged with the kitchen and office occupying the southeastern third of the building. The remainder of the space is devoted to the dining room. Seating in the dining room consists of booths along the walls and four tables in the center of the room. Most of this furniture was handmade from chestnut lumber and trimmed with silver birch. A small gift shop and a stairway that leads to the restrooms in the basement are located on the southwest wall. A large, double hearth, stone fireplace stands near the western corner.

Orange neon signs point the way to the restrooms, gift shop and cashier in large block letters. Three chandeliers made from wagon wheels provide light for the dining room. However, additional illumination is provided at each booth by lamps made from old wooden gears.

(Continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

G-V-A-060

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1932

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Amos N. Peters

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The consciously rustic image of the Chimney Corner and its conspicuous use of logs are elements representative of a stylistic type of building usually geared toward travelers and recreation in wilderness areas. With its reputation as a mountain resort area and its heritage of pioneer settlers, Garrett County is particularly susceptible to this type of building with its playful use of traditional materials. This type of "vacation log" building was commonly built around Deep Creek Lake in the 1920's and 1930's.. One surviving example is Mar-Jo Lodge, site #G-IV-B-083. Chimney Corner's location on the northwest Turnpike (U.S. Route 50) and its proximity to Oakland, (the county seat) and Deep Creek Lake include it within the sphere of Garrett County's recreational interests.

The Chimney Corner was constructed in 1932 by Amos N. Peters, a resident of Crafton, West Virginia. Peters opened the restaurant in 1933 and owned it until 1940, however he hired other people to manage it. During his ownership the place gained a reputation as a popular night spot because of entertainment and dancing.

In 1939 the Chimney Corner was bought by Russell Smith, who decided to emphasize the food aspect of the restaurant rather than entertainment. Due to food and gas rationing, from 1942 to 1945 the place was open mainly at night. Smith held a beer license until 1951 but discontinued it because he wanted to build up a family oriented trade.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

G-V-A-060

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Valerie Cesna, Historical Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

May 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

#7 Description Continued

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The Chimney Corner

Wall decorations include several hornet nests, a stuffed hawk perched on a branch with its wings spread, an eagle in a similar pose, a rifle with a bayonet, a hand-crank telephone, and an eel spear. Coat hooks made from forked birch branches are provided on the walls near each booth. In the office, a portrait of Theodore Roosevelt is prominently displayed. Two rocking chairs and a spinning wheel are set before the hearth which is lined with brick and has a keystone in the lintel.

Yellow gingham curtains on birch twig curtain rods dress the windows.

G-V-A-060  
Chimney Corner  
Chain of Title

Garrett County Land Records:

18 February 1955

liber 187, folio 538

Grantees: Russell L. Smith and Jessie C. Smith

Grantor: Lewis R. Jones, Trustee

Acreage: 20 (2 ten-acre lots)

25 March 1939

liber 118, folio 418

Grantee: Russell L. Smith

Grantors: Amos N. Peters and Nellie N. Peters

Consideration: \$10,000.00

8 August 1932

liber 105, folio 74

Grantee: Amos N. Peters

Grantor: Carl A. Martin

Consideration: \$3,500.00

13 June 1931

liber 104, folio 202

Grantees: Herbert B. Flint and Carl A. Martin

Grantors: James F. Hamilton and Nella B. Hamilton

For previous deeds see Chain of Title for Stie #G-V-A-047 Ward Farm.



Table Rock, MD-WV  
 USGS 7.5 minute series  
 Scale - 1:24,000  
 1948; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-V-A-060  
 The Chimney Corner  
 Route 50 & Route 219 -  
 West corner



G-V-A-060

Chimney Corner

Garrett County, MD

Donna Ware 9-8-80

Facade NE elevation



G-V-A-060

Chimney Corner

Garrett County, MD

Donna Ware 9-8-80

SW elev. rear & SE gable end